

## ***Record Enrollment for Maritime Administration-Sponsored Course at the Naval War College***

***By Retired Navy Vice Adm. James B Perkins***



***Retired Navy Vice Adm. Jim Perkins (yellow tie) with some of his students at the Naval War College.***

The Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, recently hosted the largest class ever assembled for its "Operational Logistics; Sealift Equations" course as 20 students from all five military services enrolled and attended the Maritime Administration-sponsored training.

Taught by retired Navy Vice Adm. James B. Perkins, the Emory S. Land Chair of Merchant Marine Affairs, the course traces merchant mariner contributions from the first arrivals to these shores, to the evolution from sail-to-steam commerce to expansion west to war-time sealift. The impact of organized labor and disasters at sea, the evolving body of maritime law, which today regulates the industry, and Department of Defense-related programs are also discussed.

Today's challenges—from protecting ships and ports, to piracy, to shipbreaking, to invasive species—are considered, and case studies are used to examine the logistics challenges of recent events. The course also takes a look to the future by examining sea basing, high-speed shipping, short-sea shipping and mixed crews. Student presentations conclude the instruction.

The course is intended as an overview that, with individual focus, will fill voids in the warrior's professional tool kit and deepen appreciation of operational logistics in general and sealift/merchant marine in particular.

## ***MARAD Update***

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